

58. **Casarca ferruginea** (Vroeg). Brahminy Duck. A flock of about 60 birds was seen on a sandy bank in the middle of the Indus near Skardu on July 24th.

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VII.—SOME NOTES ON BURMESE BIRDS.

1. **Smew.** (*Mergus albellus*).

While out fishing for Mahseer on the Nan Tebet (Myitkyina Dist.) below Chinkram in Nov. last year, I spotted what appeared to be 5 black and white duck and one rufous capped duck swimming about on the far side of the stream. Closer inspection convinced me that this was a party of 5 ♂ and 1 ♀ smew though unfortunately they never came close enough for me to have a shot at them. I could clearly see the white heads and necks of the drakes with black patches on their faces. The only other record of this bird's occurrence in N.-E. Burma is apparently from Fort Hertz.

2. **Glossy Stare.** (*Lamprocorax panayensis strigatus*).

Early one morning in Dec. last year, I noticed a large party of metallic green birds in a tall tree near Lake Hlawga, Rangoon. They were jumping and flying from bough to bough while keeping up an incessant chatter very much after the manner of Starlings or Mynahs. Although the only record of this bird is an uncertain one from Arakan, I can think of no other species to which these birds could have belonged.

3. **Burmese Black-crested Baza.** (*Baza leuphotes burmana*).

A female seen on her nest in a tall tree in open teak forest 6 miles down the Namkham road from Bhamo on May 9th 1941. It is reputed to be a very shy bird but I experienced the greatest difficulty in making it forsake its nest and only achieved this by continually throwing a stick up into the tree. Unfortunately I was unable to reach the nest which was on the tip of a slender branch.

4. **Daurian Redstart.** (*Phoenicurus hodgsoni*).

A ♂ specimen of what must have been this bird was shot by my friend Mr. Braund on a sparsely wooded hillside in the Hills between Kyaukme and Mogok (N.S.S.) in Feb. this year. This bird was in every way similar to the description given by Oates except that the areas given as 'chestnut' by him were much nearer 'chrome yellow'.

5. **Indian Blue-eared Barbet.** (*Cyanops duvauceli cyanotis*).

When out walking in open forest and scrub country near the river at Bhamo in May, I saw a small barbet hopping about on a

large bare tree. I managed to get up within 30 yards of it and clearly identified it as of this species. According to Smithies 'Birds of Burma' this bird has not hitherto been recorded from N.-E. Burma.

6. **Van Hassalt's Sunbird.** (*Cinnyris brasiliana*).

A ♂ bird seen at Lake Hlawga Rangoon in Sept. last year.

7. **Indian Grackle.** (*Gracula religiosa intermedia*).

4 birds seen in a bare tree in deciduous forest at plain's level 6 miles outside Bhamo in May this year.

8. **Sapphire-headed Flycatcher.** (*Muscicapula sapphira*).

♂ birds seen on two occasions on the road up to Bernardmyo near Mogok (March).

9. **Indian Sultan Tit.** (*Melanochlora sultanea sultanea*).

A ♂ bird seen in secondary growth on the hills behind Alexandra Barracks Maymyo Feb.

10. **Siamese Red-vented Bulbul.** (*Molpastes chrysorrhoides klossi*).

Red vented Bulbuls with light brown cheek patches have been seen by me both at Mogok (Feb.) and Bhamo (May). This cheek patch is so outstanding that I am sure both these birds were of the Siamese species.

11. **Yellow-throated Minivet.** (*Pericrocotus solaris solaris*).

A party of 8 was seen in a tree near Lake Hlawga Rangoon in December last year. This Minivet is not common in Burma and is normally a bird of the higher hills though the party seen by me was at sea level.

12. **Burmese Black-necked Tailor Bird.** (*Orthotomus atrigularis nitidus*).

I met a pair of these attractive little tailor birds in a low bush some 4 miles outside Bhamo in May this year and though I imagine they had a nest somewhere in the vicinity I was unable to locate it. This bird has been recorded from Myitkyina but has not so far as I am aware been seen in the Bhamo area before.

BHAMO,

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VIII.—BED BUGS AND SWIFTS.

In volume xli, No. 3 (April 1940) of the *Journal*, Humayun Abdulali has written an interesting note on 'Swifts and Terns at Vengurla Rocks' (Misc. Note No. xi). He describes finding the